STUDIES IN THE EUPATORIEAE (ASTERACEAE). CCXIII.

A NEW GENUS, *PROLOBUS*, FROM BAHIA.

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During the study of the tribe Eupatorieae by the present authors, inadequate material has prevented decisions regarding the proper placement of some of the described species previously placed in *Eupatorium*. Among the names remaining unplaced have been two of particular interest, *E. nitidulum* Baker and *E. moritibense* B.L.Robinson, both based on different specimens of *Blanchet 3489* from Bahia, Brasil, and apparently representing the same species. Fragmentary material has seemed close to the genus *Barrosoa* in general aspect, but differed in at least one essential feature, the lack of a conical receptacle. Observations seemed to indicate that an undescribed genus was involved, but further collections were needed. Recently, through the efforts of Dr. Scott Mori, collecting in Bahia, a new collection has been made of the species, and the generic distinction has been confirmed. The genus is named here as *Prolobus* in reference to the distinctive structure of its corolla lobes.

The new genus is readily recognized as a member of the subtribe Gyptidinae which is particularly diversified in Brasil. *Prolobus* has the densely annulated cell walls in the anther collar, a capillary pappus, simple style bases, and roughened style branches as in most members of the subtribe. Distinctions from individual described genera are easily discovered, however. The new genus, as seen in the new material, is a distinctly shrubby plant, unlike *Gyptis*, *Barrosoa*, and many other genera of the typical element of the subtribe. The carpopodium of *Prolobus* is large as in *Barrosoa*, but the upper margin is projecting without extensions up the ribs of the achene, and the cells have distinctly thickened walls. These features and the nearly plane rather than conical receptacle indicate that *Prolobus* and *Barrosoa* are not particularly closely related.

The corolla lobe structure provides a final difference between *Prolobus* and *Barrosoa*, and offers insight into the actual relationship of the new genus. In *Barrosoa*, as in *Gyptis*, both surfaces of the lobes are rather evenly covered with papillae. The papillae on the two surfaces differ in details, but neither surface extends beyond the other at the tip. In *Prolobus*, the outer surface of the corolla lobe has enlarged thicker-walled cells that form an umbo ending short of the apex. The inner surface extends beyond the outer lobe surface to form a densely

papillose acuminate appendage. The lower part of the outer surface is smooth. Below inside are large bulging round cells.

The distinctive corolla lobes of *Prolobus* are most closely approached in their structure by the lobes in *Morithamnus*, a shrubby member of the subtribe Gyptidinae from the Rio Contas area of the interior of Bahia. The latter genus differs by its more fleshy, obovate to oblanceolate, viscous leaves, its leaves and corollas with prominent paired resin ducts, by the much larger heads with narrow involucral bracts, and by the pappus elements being distinctly flattened on the outer surface. The genus *Prolobus* occurs in coastal Bahia and has abruptly petiolate leaves with ovate, shiny, herbaceous leaf blades. The leaf venation is prominulous. The two genera are considered related on the basis of their corolla lobe structure, but sufficiently distinct that they would not be recognized as close relatives by casual observers. The new genus is as follows.

PROLOBUS R. M. King and H. Robinson, gen. nov. Asteracearum (Eupatorieae).

Plantae frutescentes ad 1.5 m altae mediocriter ramosae. Folia plerumque opposita superne alterna anguste breviter petiolata; laminae herbaceae ovatae nitidae base breviter acutae margine inciso-serratae vel duplo-serratae apice acutae vel breviter acuminatae supra et subtus sparse minute glandulo-punctatae in nervis et marginis variabiliter puberulae, nervis secundariis erecto-patentiter pinnatis inferne congestioribus. Inflorescentiae in ramis terminales cymosae alterne ramosae in ramis ascendentibus corymbosae. Capitula plerumque distincte breviter pedicellata; involucra mediocriter campanulata leniter subimbricata, bracteis ca. 12-15 ca. 2-seriatis subaeguilongis breviter acutis margine anguste scariosis extus valde bicostatis; receptacula plana vel vix convexa glabra. Flores ca. 12-14 in capitulo; corollae pallide violescentes superne extus glanduliferae, tubis late cylindraceis, faucibus anguste infundibulares, cellulis elongatis in parietibus sinuosis, lobis vix longioribus quam latioribus extus in cellulis magnis firmis prominentibus intus breviter papillate appendiculatis; filamenta in partibus superioribus cylindrica, cellulis inferne subquadratis superne oblongis omnino in parietibus valde dense transverse annulate ornatis; appendices antherarum oblongae vix longioribus quam latioribus; basi stylorum glabri non noduliferi; appendices stylorum anguste lineares breviter mamillosae. Achaenia prismatica 5-costata inferne paulum angustiora glabra vel superne 1-2-setulifera; carpopodia late breviter cylindracea in marginis superioribus prominentis, cellulis oblongis 2-3-seriatis in parietibus distincte incrassatis multo porosis; setae pappi 25-30 irregulariter elongatae extus non planatae, cellulis apicalibus angustis subacutis. Grana pollinis in diametro ca. 20 µm.

Type species: *Eupatorium nitidulum* Baker.

The genus contains a single known species.

PROLOBUS NITIDULUS (Baker) R. M. King and H. Robinson, comb. nov.
Eupatorium nitidulum Baker in Martius, Flora Brasiliensis 6 (2): 351. 1876. Syn.: *Eupatorium moritibense* B.L.Robinson, Contrib. Gray Herb. n.s. 104: 23. 1934. Coastal Bahia, Brasil.